

For Immediate Release
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**MAYOR COLEMAN IN U.S. DELEGATION TO INTERNATIONAL
MAYORS CONFERENCE IN JERUSALEM**

Conference to Examine Multiculturalism, Security, Preservation and Development

Columbus Mayor Michael Coleman is one of 13 mayors traveling to Israel April 9 for the 23rd Annual Jerusalem Conference of Mayors, which is hosted by Jerusalem Mayor Uri Lupolianski. The week-long event is sponsored by the American Jewish Congress-Council for World Jewry, which covers the costs of the mayors' participation, and The U.S. Conference of Mayors, and is conducted in cooperation with the Israeli Foreign Ministry.

In Jerusalem, the U.S. delegation will be joined by nearly 60 mayors from cities in over 30 countries in South, Central and North America, Europe, Africa, and Asia. The theme of this years conference is "Leading the 21st Century City: Multiculturalism, Security, Preservation and Development."

During the April 10-16 event the mayors are scheduled to meet with Israeli President Moshe Katzav; Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom; Industry, Trade and Employment Minister Ehud Olmert; and Housing Minister Isaac Herzog. They will also participate in several sessions in which Mayor Lupolianski will discuss current issues affecting Jerusalem. Conference sessions will focus on a variety of municipal issues in Israel and the visiting mayors will have several opportunities to discuss their cities and the strategies they employ to address local problems. Included in the conference are visits to several Jerusalem neighborhoods. The mayors will tour both historic and modern sites in Jerusalem, visit Yad Vashem, the holocaust memorial, and Yad Sarah, a social services facility in Jerusalem, and also will travel to Nazareth, the Sea of Galilee and the Christian holy sites around it, the Golan Heights, Caesarea, Masada, and the Dead Sea.

The U.S. delegation also includes Mayors Donald Plusquellic of Akron, OH, President of The U.S. Conference of Mayors; Robert Baines of Manchester, NH; Michael Coleman of Columbus, OH; Joy Cooper of Hallandale Beach, FL; Frank Cownie of Des Moines, IA; Joseph Curtatone of Sommerville, MA; Paul Fraim of Norfolk, VA; Meryl Frank of Highland Park, NJ; Brenda Lawrence of Southfield, MI; Arlene Mulder of Arlington Heights, IL; Judith Valles of San Bernardino, CA; L. Douglas Wilder of Richmond, VA; and County Executive James McCarthy of Summit County, OH.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors is the official nonpartisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. There are 1,139 such cities in the country today, each represented in the Conference by its chief elected official, the Mayor.